

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shen et al (6,545,660).

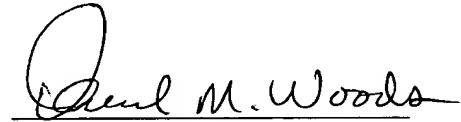
Independent method claim 1 has been amended to include “a single information entry area containing information about the group of pictures”, where the “metadata receiver (is) adapted to accept metadata input on-screen by said user to the information entry area”. Independent apparatus claim 9 has been amended to include similar language.

Shen et al. describes a system for controlling the compositing of a sequence of images, which can be annotated with text. An annotate function 2140 is used to add the name, date, location and events annotation to the pictures stored in the picture database (col. 5, lines 61 – 64). While many pictures, some of which may be in groups, are displayed in the Shen et al. environment, Shen et al. is silent as to the functionality employed for the annotation. One of ordinary skill would surely be led to employ the techniques known in the art, namely, to annotate each image individually. In particular, Shen et al. fails to teach or in any way suggest “a single information entry area containing information about the group of pictures; and a metadata receiver adapted to accept metadata input on-screen by said user to the information entry area” for annotation of a group of pictures from a single information entry point.

It is axiomatic that for prior art to anticipate under §102 it has to meet every element of the claimed invention. *Hybritech Inc. v. Monoclonal Antibodies, Inc.* 231USPQ 81, 90 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 requires the disclosure in a single piece of prior art of each and every limitation of a claimed invention. *Rockwell International Corp. v. United States* 47USPQ2d 1027, 1031 (Fed Cir. 1998). The foregoing remarks indicate that each claim, as now amended, includes one or more claimed elements that are not to be found or suggested by the Shen et al. reference. For anticipation to be

found, all of the claimed elements must be found in Shen et al. Since that is not the case with respect to each and every one of the amended claims 1 – 16, the Examiner is respectfully asked to withdraw the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and to consider allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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